

POPE LEO'S VIGOROUS MIND.

TALKS POLITICS WITH AMBASSADORS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Spain's Troubles to Be Settled at Rome—Portugal in Disfavor—Endeavor to Quiet Matters in France by Enforcing Compliance With Papal Policy.

Rome, Jan. 19.—Dr. Lappont is much pleased at the sustained elasticity with which Leo XIII. has passed the New Year's receptions. In the interviews with the ambassadors he has shown his perfect knowledge and wonderful understanding of all matters. The diplomats are unanimous in praising the vivacity of his memory, the penetration of his mind and the easiness of his conversation. "He is the eternal youth," said a minister; and in fact youth is not a matter of years, but of mind. Leo XIII. is a phenomenon.

In his talks Leo XIII. ran over the whole range of European questions. To the Prince of Monaco's Minister he spoke of Mgr. Theuret and of his successors. French priests are candidates for this bishopric. With Señor Pidal y Mon, the Holy Father gave expression to all the tenderness he feels for Spain, for the Queen Regent and for Alfonso XIII., his godson. He wished a long life to the King, who in May will be proclaimed sovereign. The state of affairs, however, is serious. The revision of the Concordat, about which the newspapers have printed grotesque fables. It is not true that the Nuncio has signed a convention with the Cabinet at Madrid. The Madrid negotiations have been transferred to Rome, a mark of Spain's kindly feeling toward the Pope, inasmuch as his Catholic Majesty's ambassador is an ardent admirer of Leo XIII. and of Cardinal Rampolla. The Pope is ready to make the concessions needed for the Spanish Government to lighten the burdens of the crown and of the State. The Pope assured Señor Pidal that the negotiations will result in a bilateral agreement.

To the Portuguese Ambassador Leo XIII. expressed sentiments less optimistic. It is said. He retains a disagreeable recollection of the manner in which the Government and the reigning house have allowed full license and the control of the streets to the paid instigators of recent disturbances. Oporto in particular with its discontent and its spirit of aversion has poisoned the air with bitter hatreds and vulgar insults. "An end must be put," said the Holy Father, "to this complexity. Are not the religious orders and the Catholics the chief benefactors of the dynasty and of the kingdom? Will not religious persecution make trouble for the monarchy? And is not the harmony of the two Powers necessary for the regular development of institutions?"

Nobody can tell what the Holy Father said to the Minister of Prussia, Baron Botenhan. Was the Strasburg theological faculty mentioned? I think not. At any rate the newspapers have stated foolishly that no sooner had Baron von Hertling arrived in Rome than he succeeded in wrestling from the Pope his consent. The learned nobleman has not yet reached Rome; he will be here soon although certain German journals deny that he intends to make the journey.

The Holy Father talked over the questions of the day with the Bavarian Minister, particularly the question of the schools. Recently the Bishops published just complaints about the schools and religious influence. The Government paid no attention to them, and the Pope protested energetically against its neglect and its attitude. It is really a notable situation that in a Catholic land, with a Catholic parliamentary majority, the State should compel children to attend schools whose masters are Protestants or even Atheists. That is an outrageous infringement on the rights of conscience and on liberty. The Vatican's wish is that either Catholic instructors be appointed or that separate schools be established for each religion.

Need I add that Leo XIII. was extremely affectionate, gracious and kind to M. Nizard? And this in spite of the fact that M. Barrère's speech at the Palazzo Farini, deeply pained the Pope's heart. Leo XIII. knows well that if the French republic wishes to form an alliance with the Quirinal, it is in order to "de-Catholicize" its foreign policy, just as it is giving a radical turn to its internal policy. M. Barrère's speech and the inevitable results of that policy are directed first of all against the position of the Holy See. Behind these combinations are hidden the King of Italy and the allied anti-clerical bodies of Italy and France, whose object is to break the bonds between the Vatican and France. The Pope has shown that he is hurt at this conduct and the effect has been perceptible in the relations with the Quirinal d'Orsay.

Notwithstanding these new black marks Leo XIII. has manifested his special love for France; he will be untiring in his ministry of pity and of patience. He repeated to M. Nizard that his policy is inflexible; he added that he has taken such measures that none can remain in ignorance of the firm will of the Holy See. He deplored the ingratitude of the Government, the persecutions and the spirit that at present actuates the republic. Leo XIII. wishes earnestly that the coming elections may work a reaction in the direction of a majority based on a policy of tolerance, peace and order. He is frightened at France's account at the outbreak of hatreds and the spread of anarchy. Naturally, Leo XIII. turned the conversation to the subject of the congregations. The fact that few of the orders have left the country and that the great majority has submitted to the law makes the Pope hope that the Cabinet will interpret the law in a spirit of kindness and of pacification. It is to the Government's interest to do so and to France's, for the congregations are the indefatigable missionaries of French influence throughout the world.

What the man who knows something of affairs will admire in the Pope's vigor of mind and in these interviews is his perfect equilibrium. For every situation he finds and speaks the right word. No irritation, no impatience. He suppresses in the bottom of his soul whatever might embitter him. Like the halcyon on the crest of the waves his mind disports itself amid storms with the ease that certainty and unshakable hope give. It is a long time since the offensive attack against Rome has had such proportions as at present, but Leo XIII. knows that the outbreak proceeds chiefly from the fear which the sectarian powers nearly everywhere have of the extension that Roman ideas have taken.

Rome's renewed distinction has in part brought on this new attack. For this reason Leo XIII. looks on these storms as a trial and not as an end; he wishes Catholics to be strong by their work and by the place they take in the world. This higher reason, drawn from divine sources, imposes on the Pope his patience, his persistence, his faithfulness to the policies which he has instituted.

Those Who Read "The Sun" are those who need in your business. Do not forget this when you have goods of value for sale.—Ad.

NEGRO PASTOR GETS A LIVING.

Congregation Was Poor, So He Went to Work to Keep the Wolf From the Door.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., Feb. 8.—The Rev. Alonzo Jason, colored pastor of the African Church at Goshen, who has found his pay insufficient for the support of his family, has demonstrated what a man can do who isn't afraid of work to aid in keeping the wolf from his door. The pastor's small congregation is composed of the overflow from the other old-established village colored church, and his income from the only source of revenue, Sunday collections, does not average hardly enough to pay his house rent. Accordingly, he found employment of various sorts in the village, chiefly in the office of the Goshen News, where he turned the crank of the press when the paper was printed.

Mr. Jason did not know anything about the printing trade, but he learned to set type and after a time became expert at it, setting up most of the matter used in the paper. When, through illness, the editor of the News was incapacitated from active work, Mr. Jason wrote editorials and news items, put them in type and printed them. He did his work well, considering his lack of experience, and the papers he printed have been extremely creditable. During all this time he continued to look after the welfare of his flock, to hold services regularly in his church and to prepare his sermons. Recently he was appointed janitor of the Goshen High School, a position which he still holds and the duties of which he discharges in a capable manner.

OFFER TO OLD TUNNEL VICTIMS.

Attempt to Settle Claims From Explosion in Long Island City Ten Years Ago.

Persons who have claims against the Inter-Island Construction Company on account of the dynamite explosion in 1892, which put an end to the work on the tunnel the company had begun between Long Island and Eleventh avenue and Forty-second street, Manhattan, have recently had an offer of a settlement on a 10 per cent. basis.

The tunnel was to be used for the transportation of passengers. A shaft about forty feet square was sunk in Fourth street, between Jackson and Vernon avenues, Long Island city. It went down ninety feet and had turned about fifty feet toward the East River when the explosion occurred. Five persons were killed and more than fifty injured. Buildings were wrecked and several destroyed by fire. Claims amounting to several hundred thousand dollars were filed against the company. Some were settled with promissory notes. It is believed that an effort is being made either to reorganize the company or to get its franchise in shape to be sold. The property it holds is now considered of great value in view of the plans for tunnels under the East River. The company had a right of way under Manhattan Island as far west as Eleventh avenue and Forty-second street.

MAYOR, AFLOAT, SURVEYS DOCKS.

And Pays Visits to Army and Navy Commandants in This Harbor.

Mayor Low spent the greater part of yesterday afloat on the good ship Richard Croker of the Dock Department's fleet. Accompanied by Commissioner Hawkins of the Dock Department, Chief Engineer Benzel and his own private secretary, James B. Reynolds, the Mayor went up and down the east and west coasts of Manhattan inspecting the docks. The rivers were choppy and the wind bit, but the Mayor stayed out on deck most of the voyage so that he could see the docks better.

IS ROBERTS A PARTISAN?

Brooklyn's Postmaster Is Chairman of Republican City Committee.

The Civil Service Reform Association has under consideration charges against Postmaster Roberts of Brooklyn, which may be presented to the United States Civil Service Commission. These charges comprise the recent dismissals and transfers of a number of men in the Brooklyn office and also the fact that Postmaster Roberts is violating an order in holding the chairmanship of the Republican City Committee, such office being indicative of partisanship.

Assistant Postmaster Newcomb said that the changes in the office had been strictly in accordance with the civil service regulations and they had been referred to and had received the sanction of the Civil Service Commission in Washington.

PAULIST FATHERS ASKED WHY THEY OBJECT TO A THEATRE.

O. W. Wilson has applied to Police Commissioner Partridge for a license for a theatre at Fifty-ninth street and Eighth avenue. The Paulist Fathers have protested against a license being granted.

Col. Partridge has written to the Paulist Fathers asking their reasons for objecting to a license being granted.

IMPROVE TWO-PLATOON PLAN.

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Are now displaying for the SPRING SEASON.

Silks and Dress Goods, including complete lines of White Fabrics, and the various weaves employed by leading Parisian Modistes.

Trimmed Millinery, Parasols.

Imported and Domestic Long Garments, Paletots, Etons, Fancy Blouses and Travelling Garments.

Advanced styles of Dress Waists, of fashionable materials, among which are plain and embroidered Pongee, and late plaid effects in Taffeta Silk.

New models in Dressy Tailor-made Gowns; Costumes and Individual Skirts.

B. Altman & Co.

For Monday, February 10th:

BLACK SILKS.

2,000 yards of Imported Black Moire Renaissance and Moire Alexandra,

Regularly \$2.00 to \$2.75 per yard, at \$1.35

COTTON DRESS GOODS.

15,000 yards Silk and Cotton Mousseline,

Cream, Mais, Ciel, Rose, Heliotrope, Nile, Cardinal Tan, Grey, Royal Blue, Black, and White,

Per yard, 23c.

(Counters Rear of Rotunda.)

PLAIN FLANNELS.

14,000 yards Plain Colored Flannels,

Imported and Domestic, 27 inches wide,

Special, per yard, 38c.

(Counters Rear of Rotunda.)

DRESSES.

(Department on Second Floor.)

A specially prepared stock of Dresses is now being shown, made of Pongee, Foulard and Louise Silk, Crepe Meteor, Mohair, Etamine; Irish Crochet and Chantilly Laces.

Tailor Gowns (new model), of Grey Canvas cloth, and Navy and Black Cheviot; Blouse Coat with Moire Silk trimming; Habit Back Skirt, Taffeta Silk lining, \$28.00

Eighteenth Street, Nineteenth Street, Sixth Avenue, New York.

RELIABLE FURS.

A Deep Cut in Prices.

Sealskin and Persian Lamb Jackets and Coats, PLAIN OR TRIMMED.

Russian Sable, Mink, Chinchilla, Lynx, Fox, Etc. Muffs, Neck Pieces, Coronation Scarfs.

ALL UP TO DATE STYLES.

Men's Fur-Lined Overcoats and Sleigh Robes. Ladies' Fur-Lined Circulars and Automobile Coats.

Seal Caps and Gloves and Coachmen's Outfits. A Full Assortment of Sizes in Everything.

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Manufacturing Fur Merchant, 42d St., Bet. Broadway and 6th Ave.

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direct attention to a large collection of Very desirable Spring Styles

Costumes and Tailor-made Gowns

and will also offer to-morrow

Women's Tailor-made Gowns, 34 to 42 bust measure, of black and blue cheviots, elaborately trimmed. Coat made in an entirely new effect, satin lined, silk drop skirt, at \$32.50 Real value \$45.00

Exceptional Values in Their Silk Departments

4,000 Yds. { Printed Beau de Sole and Satin Foulards, at 55¢
2,875 Yds. { Warp Print, Polka Dot and Plaid Louisines, Broche Beau de Oryne and Fancy Stripe Taffetas, at 95¢

In addition to later arrivals of

Foreign Dress Goods

Will place on sale to-morrow an Importation of 2500 Yds. 45 inch wide French Nun's Veiling, in Royal, Navy, Hussar and Light Blue, Reseda, Tan, Castor, Light Grey, Pink, Cream White and Black, at 73¢

Also final clearing sale of 10000 Yds. Printed Challies, in desirable designs and colorings Value 50c yd. 29¢

Annual Sale of Boys' Washable Suits, Waists & Blouses

200 Doz. Celebrated "Star" Waists & Negligee Blouses, of English Oxfords, Madras and Percalé, 3 to 14 yrs. Regular values 87c to \$1.25. 59¢

Sailor & Russian Blouse Suits, of English Galatas, Linens, Chambrays, White Piques and Mercerized Cottons, sizes 2 to 12 yrs. 95¢ \$1.58 \$1.95

Regular values \$1.75 to \$3.95

Women's Shoes & Slippers

450 Pairs. Enamel Leather Laced Walking Boots, dull kid tops and stout extension soles, or English last and welted soles, widths B to E Value \$3.50 Pr. \$2.45

White Satin Slippers, with French heels also Kid Slippers, mostly all sizes Formerly \$1.95 to \$2.95 Pr. 95¢

Oriental Rugs & Carpets

At Remarkably Low Prices

300 Daghestan & Shirvan Rugs in choice colorings, \$12.50, 14.50, 16.50 Value \$16.50 to \$22.50

50 Oriental Carpets suitable for Parlor, Dining Room or Library
6 ft. 6 by 9 ft. 2 \$30.00 9 ft. 7 by 12 ft. 10 \$71.00
7 ft. 5 by 11 ft. 46.00 9 ft. 10 by 13 ft. 9 \$82.00
9 ft. 7 by 11 ft. 6 68.00 10 ft. 3 by 14 ft. 4 \$89.00

Antique and Modern Persian Carpets at Decided Reductions

Silk Rugs in light, delicate colorings for Hangings, Decorations & Floor

Lace Curtains Special Sale

Renaissance Pr. \$3.95, 6.75, 9.75
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Brise Bises, Less Than Half Price \$1.50 to 5.75

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Large assortment of French & English Cretonnes

Slip Covers of all kinds and King's Scotch Holland Shades made to order. Furniture Re-upholstered.

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We call Mothers' attention to the especially desirable character of these offerings—they represent money-saving values impossible to home-production, and again illustrate how thoroughly the most complete "Children's Store" serves the public.

Short Dresses of nainsook,

50c., 69c., 75c., 95c., \$1.19, \$1.38, \$1.45, \$1.85, 1, 2 and 3 years.

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30c., 40c., 67c., 75c., 85c., \$1.10, \$1.25, \$1.39, 60-62 West 23d Street.

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Antique and Modern Oriental Rugs

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